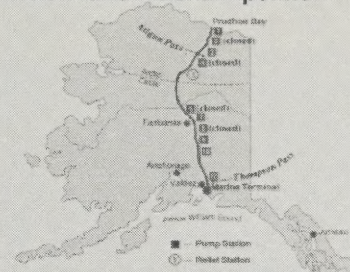


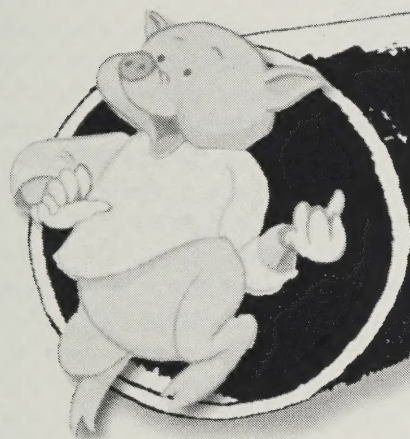
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ALASKA[™] People

The Trans Alaska Pipeline

November/December 1998



PIGS

it's not
what
you
think

by Rhea DoBosh

Pigs. Pigs in a blanket. Ham and eggs. Three little piggies. Pickled pigs feet. What do you see when you think of pigs? Probably a bunch of fat old hogs rolling in the mud. If you have kids you might visualize Piglet or Babe, the barnyard star of a rather quirky little movie. If you work at the Joint

Pipeline Office you'd have a very different mental picture.

When JPO talks pigs they are referring to mechanical devices that travel with the oil flowing through a pipeline. Pigs can perform service functions or they can accumulate information.

There are many types of pigs, and their accuracy and reliability has improved greatly in the last 20 years. For the 800-mile Trans-Alaska Pipeline (TAPS), pigs play a critical role in helping diagnose problems, particularly for the half of the pipeline that is buried and cannot be inspected visually.

Pigs were developed to perform different functions. The cleaning pig, one of the first, is used to regularly clean wax buildup on the pipe so the oil can flow without interruption.

Curvature pigs gather information to determine if the pipe has undergone any bending since the last pig reading. Pigs have run relatively problem-free for many years. But in October 1979, when a curvature pig became lodged in a check valve south of Pump Station 4, attempts were made to

dislodge the pig by alternately increasing and decreasing the pressure of oil or reversing the flow of oil. "Stoppling," which involved a dangerous and costly construction of a line to bypass the check valve, was done to remove the pig and the damaged valve was repaired.

Deformation pigs detect changes in the shape of the pipe due to dents, wrinkles, or ovalities. Two dents at Thompson Pass that were identified by pigs were excavated and corrected.

Smart pigs detect internal and external corrosion, and survey the shape of the pipe. In 1989, corrosion pig surveys detected significant corrosion on TAPS which led to the replacement of eight miles of pipeline at Atigun Pass. Since the Atigun project, corrosion detection devices are used to determine if the pipeline is adequately being protected from corrosion.

Pigs? Texas barbecue will never be the same. Rhea DoBosh works at the Joint Pipeline Office as a public affairs specialist for the State of Alaska. The JPO is comprised of BLM, State of Alaska and other federal employees who coordinate the regulating and monitoring of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System.

Big Field Season: Banner Year for Mapping Project

by Ed Bovy

Forty-seven employees from BLM, Ducks Unlimited, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources mapped millions of acres of vegetation throughout Alaska this summer. Their work was the result of a Challenge Cost Share agreement that BLM-Alaska signed last year with Ducks Unlimited to develop an uniform earth cover map of Alaska. Other adjacent land managers joined the band wagon after realizing it would save them money by working together. "The earth cover information will serve as a base for other resource data to be plotted and analyzed," says state project coordinator **John Payne**.

Seven crews worked on the Kenai Peninsula, at the Kanuti and Innoko national wildlife refuges, Glennallen, Aniak and Unalakleet, racking up 600 hours of flying time. "This may have been the biggest field effort mounted by BLM-Alaska since our fieldwork for the Dalton



Biologist Scott Guyer verifies vegetation on the ground with what is on his map.

Highway in 1989," says Payne.

The 1998 fiscal year was the second of a five-year agreement, with BLM spending about \$250,000. When the contract ends, Payne estimates the BLM will have data on 78 million acres of public lands, which is what BLM expects to permanently manage in Alaska.

Everything starts with a large satellite digital image obtained from the EROS Data Center in South Dakota. Areas as small as five-acres are analyzed for "spectral

responses" to light and then assigned an initial classification from 30 earth types of cover.

Field crews then check specific locations to provide more accurate data for a second computer analysis. The result is a much more accurate map.

Ducks Unlimited will use the data to determine its priorities for wetlands habitat restoration projects,

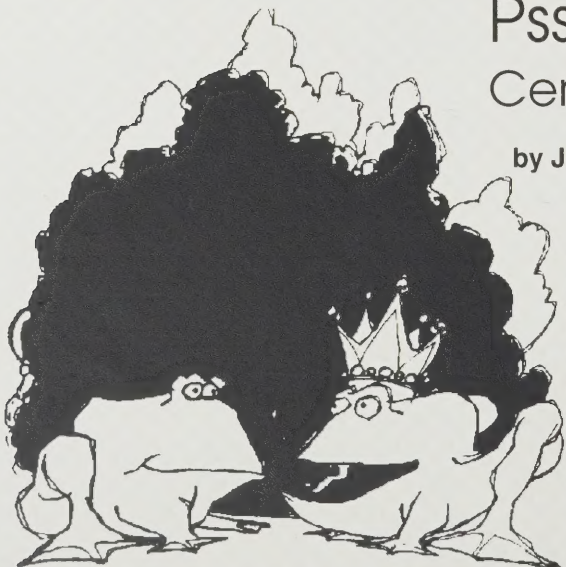
while the Fish and Wildlife Service will use it to manage habitat for large migrating mammals.

Next summer, crews will map 44 million acres of military operations areas so the Air Force can mitigate the effects of low-level aircraft training on wildlife.

BLM crews from Anchorage are scheduled in 1999 to work in the Stoney River area; the Northern Field Office will work in the Nulato Hills, and a Glennallen Field Office crew will base out of Talkeetna. *Ed Bovy is a public affairs specialist for External Affairs.*

Pssst.... the Public Information Center is upgrading its technology

by Justin Oldham



Preparing for the **Automated Lands and Minerals Records System** has meant significant technology upgrades for the Public Information Center (PIC), all of which is designed to improve customer service and streamline the way business is done. Besides a new microfilm reader-printer, the PIC now has its own web page, and new personal computers and laser printers to support it. Look for future enhancements to the PIC from a variety of projects which are already in the works. An effort with Mapping Sciences also is under way to digitize and automate more than 18,000 Master Title Plats. *Justin Oldham is a contact representative in the Public Information Center in Anchorage.*

Employee Profile

He doesn't look like he's worked for the BLM for 36 years, but he has, and by the end of December, State Director Tom Allen will be gone. "It's time for a different life experience," says Allen. He became Alaska's state director in 1994 and quickly got a reputation as a no nonsense fiscal conservative. Land conveyances and Alaska pipeline issues were his priorities.

He hesitatingly admits to being a workaholic and introvert, and says he's liked every job he's ever had. "I look forward to coming to work everyday. I can't imagine anyone not liking their work."

Growing up in West Allis, Wisconsin, Allen says he was just your average guy. He had younger and older brothers, played football, did okay in school.

Allen says he didn't have any career plans when he came to BLM in 1962 after graduating from the University of Montana with a forestry degree. First he was a realty specialist, and then an area manager in Nevada. He later left an area manager job in California for a stint in Washington D.C., where he held positions in the budget shop and the Dept. of Interior. In 1979 he became Arizona's associate state director, and after six years returned to D.C. to become the Assistant Director for Management Services. He left D.C. for good when he came to Alaska.

He has no plans after retirement, but is having fun overseeing the building of his retirement home outside of Elko, Nevada. He and his wife Carol will be closer to their five children, and he'll probably spend more time at the race car tracks.

How long have you lived in Alaska?
4 1/2 years.

What do you enjoy most about your job? Working with the people in Alaska, the diversity of issues and seeing that the State and Natives



Ed Bow

Tom Allen Alaska State Director

receive their land entitlements.

What is the last book you've read (or are currently reading)? I've just finished William Bennett's *Death of Outrage* (it's about America's moral decline) and Daniel Silva's *Mark of the Assassin* (fictional work about an assassin).

What is your idea of a good time?
Going 100+mph on my motorcycle.

What was your favorite job? My first job and my last job. In the first job I was a BLM realty specialist in Carson City, NV. I'd get up and go, and I had few constraints. I'd see the countryside and I'd see a project from beginning to end. As a state director, the same applies. I'm blessed with a four-hour Washington time difference, so they've pretty much left me alone; I haven't been micro-managed. I've seen some great places.

If you had one year to live, what would you do? I've never given much thought to checking out so I'd figure it out if it happens. Probably, I'd spend more time with my family since I haven't done that for 36 years.

Name one thing which people would be surprised to know about you? I have about 700 jazz CD. I like jazz!

What does your "ultimate meal" consist of? My wife's beef pot roast, salad, red wine and lemon meringue pie. She's a great cook!

What bad habit would you like to break? Cussing!

What is your favorite place? Home.

What is the most important thing you've learned since working for the BLM? People know how to do their jobs.



Vanessa Peterson and Melissa Beans were among the Resource Apprenticeship Program students who were recognized for their work at a ceremony held at the Campbell Creek Science Center. Twenty four students participated in the state-wide program, five worked in Anchorage for BLM, National Park Service and Trailside Discovery Camp.

Cool

National Interpreters in Anchorage. Several BLMers attended the National Association for Interpretation annual conference held in Anchorage, Oct. 20-24.

BLMers won several awards for excellence and innovation in the interpretive field. **Nancy Stimson** from the Anchorage Field Office and **Lenore Heppler** from the Northern Field Office distinguished themselves by chairing conference subcommittees.

BLM supports NAI and its national workshops for its development of quality, effective professional interpreters.

RAPs Gets the Nod at Native Conference. From October 12-17, a total of six BLMers staffed an exhibit booth at the Alaska Federation of Natives annual convention in Anchorage. Information on BLM's Resource Apprenticeship Program for Students (RAPS), Anchorage School Business partnership and Campbell Creek Science Center was distributed. As a result of our participation, Native liaison **Brenda Takeshorse** says she's received several calls from teachers and other federal agencies interested in the RAPS program.

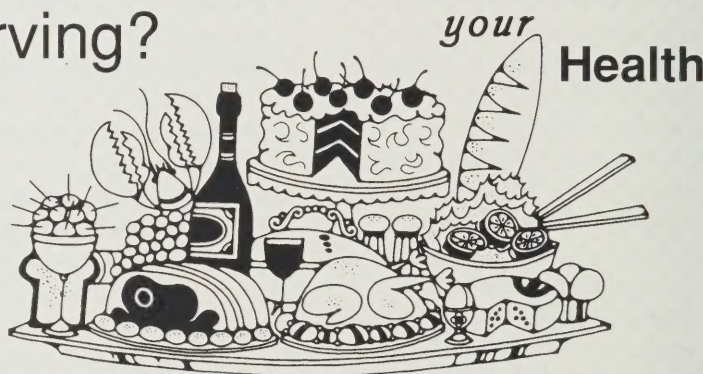
How much is one serving?

Now that the holiday season is near I've decided to go on a diet. Losing a little weight always makes me feel better.

The first thing I do is resume my exercise routine. It's back to the mandatory aerobics, three times a week, some weight work, and some toning exercises. The last and most difficult aspect is food. I go back to a diet which strictly follows the established daily requirements. For me it's less fat, more fruit and vegetables, and a reduction in my serving sizes.

It seems that as I grow older I forget what a single serving is until I start to diet. However, I was recently horrified to learn that the meal portions served on the airlines (if you receive a meal) are the accurate single servings for an adult. And all along I thought the airlines were just being thrifty.

We've grown accustomed to



ONE SERVING	LOOKS LIKE (size-wise)
• 3 oz. red meat/poultry/fish	• Deck of playing cards
• medium apple/pear/peach	• Tennis ball
• 1 oz of cheese	• One thumb length
• 1/2 cup of ice cream	• Tennis ball
• 1/2 cup of rice/vegetables	• Tennis ball
• 1 oz of nuts/candies	• One handful
• 1 medium potato	• One computer mouse
• 1 cookie	• An Oreo
• 1 cup of cereal/broccoli/milk	• A tight fist
• 1 tsp. of butter	• First joint of your thumb
• 1 muffin/cinnamon roll	• A doorknob

monster burgers, megamuffins and huge meals at restaurants. Who eats an 1/2 cup of cereal (the usual recommended serving for many cereals)? If you're like me you get a bowl, fill it with your favorite cereal and start eating. When the cereal is gone you keep

filling the bowl with cereal until the milk and cereal are gone at the same time (about 1,000 calories later). Solution? Read labels and be aware of the serving size of the food you're eating.

If you want to lose some weight in a relatively painless way, adjust your serving sizes! The above guidelines can help us when we don't have a scale or measuring devices.—**Editor**

Source: HealthWise

News

Running Team Made it . . .

Barely. The Barely There Bare Belles, a predominately BLM women's running team finished this year's Klondike Trail of '98 International Road Relay from Skagway to Whitehorse in 19 hours 27

minutes and 46 seconds for 13th place in the Women's Team category.

According to team captain **Cheryl Fusco**, "With all of the last minute crises we were barely able to pull it off this year. We again lived up to our barely there name."

A week before the race, it looked like the team really had it together with teammates completing significant races. However, three days before the race, **Peggy Fox** had to drop out for the birth of her first grandchild. She was replaced by Julie Overbaugh, who had not been training for the race, but took the challenge of the shortest, 5.8 miles but incredibly steep second leg of the race.

Anne Jeffery, who would have run 12.3 miles (leg 8), went on a short, flat nature hike in Whitehorse the night before and tripped on a root while adjusting her bear bell (or was it a bare bell) and heard a snap. She broke her fibula, and Fusco had less than 10 hours to find another runner.

The Belles were saved by Joe Klejka, a Bethel doctor who had



The Barely There Bare Belles running team. Kneeling left to right Chris Sitbon, BLM land law examiner, Patti Sullivan, FAF, Kammie Hilleary, B&B owner, Anne Jeffery, BLM Chief External Affairs. Back row l-r Sally Wisely, BLM Associate State Director, Joseph Klejka, M.D., Bethel, Bunny Sterin, BLM hydrologist, Julie Overbaugh (wife of Bill, BLM outdoor recreation planner), Georgia Holton BLM computer specialist, Cheryl Fusco, team captain & div. staff assistant Conveyances, Sheila Cullen, RN from Ketchikan. Not pictured Peggy Fox, BLM subsistence coordinator.

came as an alternate for another healthy team. After interviewing the team and hearing stories about broken fibulas, strained knees, persistent colds, bad backs and tender feet, he decided what the team really needed was a doctor. He finished 44 out of 163 for his leg of the race.

"Our goal each year is to finish and not be disqualified," says Fusco. "We run the Klondike because it's a unique and fun race. Where else can you be passed by a motorhome pulling a hot tub full of people in the wilds of Canada at 3 a.m.?"

Mark Calendars for All

Employees Meetings. All employees meetings are scheduled for November 23 in Fairbanks at the Alaska Fire Service and November 30 in Anchorage at the Anchorage Museum. Employee awards will be given and the State Director and Associate will reflect on accomplishments of the 1998 fiscal year.

Biologist in India. The next issue of Alaska People will feature a story on wildlife biologist **Bill Overbaugh's** recent trip to India.

Saying Goodbye to the Boss.

Retirement activities for **Tom Allen**, Alaska's State Director, will include a retirement luncheon at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, Wednesday, December 2, 11:30 a.m. and a reception at 2 pm, Friday December 4 in the Denali Room at the Alaska State Office. Anyone planning to attend the luncheon should make reservations with **Larry Crane** or **Cheryl Fusco** at (907) 271-5080 by November 25. Any dirt on Tom should be forwarded to **Anne Jeffery** at (907) 271-4418 so that it can be used at the luncheon.

Looking for an Associate Northern Field Mgr. . . Again.

Aspiring to be associate field manager in the northern climes? The associate field manager position for the Northern Field Office is once again open. **William Freeland** declined his selection after a recent trip to the office in Fairbanks.



MORALE



by Scott Guyer

WHAT'S IT GONNA BE?

You've heard a lot of discussion recently about morale in the workplace. Hopefully, most employees have reviewed the results from the employee survey questionnaire about workplace conditions. Recently, former BLM Director Pat Shea addressed this issue in an all employees e-mail after an Executive Leadership Team meeting in Denver. For those of you who didn't read the employee questionnaire or Director Shea's letter, surprise! It revealed that morale was low at BLM nationwide and in Alaska. Actually, I am sure that was not a big surprise to any of us in Alaska.

So why is morale so low and what causes the problem? Pat Shea came up with possible solutions: improve priorities, workload responsibilities and accountability. He wants to improve day-to-day communications and make employee evaluations more effective.

Whew! I feel better now, don't you? Can't you feel a surge of positive morale sweeping throughout the BLM since that e-mail hit cyberspace? But seriously, it is not surprising that BLM upper management is not equipped to solve this problem.

Many CEOs at major corporations graduated with business and management degrees, and have studied ways to make workers more productive through motivation and work place enhancement. In contrast, most BLM managers have a natural resources background with little or no training in motivating employees.

Unfortunately, low morale is also a characteristic of our government culture. It is a trade off for job security, lower pay and low expectations. Very little can be done to change the current system to one which rewards employees with Christmas bonuses, but here are some simple things which can improve morale:

• **Increase day-to-day involvement of upper management.** This is called "management by walking around" and is popular at many Fortune 500 companies. When was the last time the boss came by your desk to check out what you were working on? When was the last time you were asked for suggestions on how to improve efficiency?

• **Get rid of the riff raff!** A few unproductive and abusive employees can disrupt others. The problem is exacerbated when managers won't take corrective action. It's discouraging to work with employees who can't get their work done, complain but are never taken to task for their behavior. If management has the will, this problem can easily be corrected.

• **Recognition should be frequent but only for the truly deserving.** Too often it is a habit to give awards to everyone as a standard practice. This does not motivate employees to emulate the hardest and most productive workers. It also discourages the high producers when they see the less efficient getting awards.

• **Federal employees generally will receive less pay and recognition.** But morale and job satisfaction can increase if employees take pride in their work and have positive attitudes. This also means treating your co-workers with respect and professionalism.
Scott Guyer is a general biologist with the Division of Cadastral Survey.

Staff Track

The following information is an incomplete list of permanent employees who joined or left BLM during the 1998 calendar year.

Comings

Mike Alcorn, environmental protection specialist, Anchorage Field Office
Lauren Hickey, logistics dispatcher, Alaska Interagency Command Center/Alaska Fire Service
Denise Knightslater, secretary, Information Technology, Support Services
Anne Jeffery, chief, external affairs, Alaska State Office
Jeff Kowalczyk, outdoor recreation planner, Fortymile Team/Northern Field Office
Maria Luis, contracting specialist, Support Services, Campbell Tract Facility
Glen F. Miller, natural resource specialist, Fortymile Team/Northern Field Office
Debbie Muenster, archaeologist, Glennallen Field Office
Bill Overbaugh, outdoor recreation planner, Div. of Lands, Minerals and Resources
Brian D. Ruetten, outdoor recreation planner, Fortymile Team/Northern Field Office
Donald Ridge, caretaker, Campbell Creek Science Center
Robert Schneider, field manager, Northern Field Office
Steve Stokke, land surveyor, Div. of Cadastral Survey
Nancy Welch, personnel management specialist, Support Services

Transition

Lorna Blue, secretary, State/Associate Directors to lead secretary, Bonneville Power, Eugene, OR
Tom Boatner, aviation manager, Alaska Fire Service to state fire management officer, Billings, MT
Dorothy Bonds, budget assistant, Anchorage Field Office to realty specialist (upward mobility), AFO
Dick Bouts, acting associate field manager, Northern Field Office to special assistant, NFO
Bob Conquergood, land office manager, Div. of Cadastral Survey to branch manager, Field and Office Services, Support Services, Campbell Tract Facility
Mel D'Anza, material handler, Support Services, Campbell Tract Facility to Supply, Alaska State Office (detail)
Dede Domingos, branch chief, Field and Office Services, Support Services to BLM Oregon
David Dorris, planner and environmental specialist, Joint Pipeline Office to Anchorage Field Office (detail)
Jim Ducker, navigable waters specialist, Div. of Lands, Minerals & Resources to resource program analyst, Office of the Special Assistant to the Secretary (detail)
Pamela Eldridge, office automation assistant, Div. of Conveyances and External Affairs (shared position)
Tom Evans, situations, Alaska Interagency Command Center/Alaska Fire Service to logistics coordinator, Northwest Interagency Coordination Center, Portland, OR
Peggy Fox, acting resources group administrator, Div. Lands, Minerals & Resources to subsistence coordinator
Jon Gregg, fire suppression specialist to initial attack dispatcher, Alaska Interagency Command Center/Alaska Fire Service
Ken Higgins, carpenter, to safety and occupational health specialist, Support Services, Campbell Tract Facility
Randi Jandt, wildlife biologist, Central Yukon Team/Northern Field

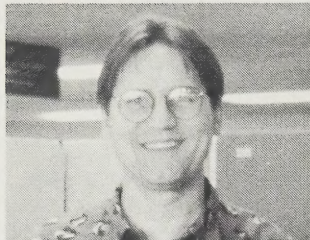
Office to fire suppression specialist

Mike Jarrett, personnel management specialist, Support Services, to Fish and Wildlife Service, Anchorage
Lindsey Lien, initial attack dispatcher to logistics coordinator, Alaska Interagency Command Center/Alaska Fire Service
Maria Luis, contracting specialist, Support Services to U.S. Army, Ft. Richardson
Rob McWhorter, public affairs specialist, Joint Pipeline Office and Alyeska employee concerns program (shared position)
Anne Morkill, wildlife biologist, Northern Field Office to Fish and Wildlife Service, Fairbanks
James Moore, land law examiner, Div. of Conveyances to realty specialist, Anchorage Field Office (transfer)
Mary O'Daniel, staff assistant, Fire Services, Alaska Fire Service to staff assistant, Aviation Management, AFS
Shirley Rackley, electronic records specialist, Support Services to realty specialist, Anchorage Field Office (upward mobility)
Cheryl Rolland, civil engineer, Support Services, Campbell Tract Facility to Bureau of Reclamation, MT
Jim Roessler, fuels specialist, Alaska Fire Service to fire management specialist, NFO
Leisa Quincy, contract specialist, Support Services, Campbell Tract Facility to BLM, Idaho
Tim Quincy, land surveyor, Div. of Cadastral Survey, Campbell Tract Facility to BLM, Idaho
Gene Terland, NPR-A team leader to resources group administrator, Div. Lands, Minerals & Resources
Leonard Wehking, lead spotter, Alaska Fire Service to District FMO, Carson City, NV
Curt Wilson, subsistence coordinator to land use planner, Div. Lands, Minerals & Resources

Tom Allen, Alaska State Director (retiring in December)
Jim Andrews, engineering branch chief, Support Services, Campbell Tract Facility (retired)
Carolyn Bailey, land law examiner, Div. of Conveyances (retired)
Harry Baker, maintenance mechanic leader, Alaska Fire Service (retired)
Mike Berkey, materials handler, Alaska Fire Service (retired)
Jim Borkowski, economist, Anchorage Field Office (retired)
Bish Buckle, resource program analyst, Office of the Secretary of the Interior (retired)
Kathy O'Reilly-Doyle, realty specialist, Fortymile Team/Northern Field Office (resigned)
Sylvia Hale, land law examiner, Div. of Conveyances (retired)
Art Hosterman, budget analyst, Support Services (retired)
Charles Jensen, administrative officer, Joint Pipeline Office (retired)
Dave Klein, land surveyor, Div. of Cadastral Survey (resigned)
Dave Mickelson, surface compliance specialist, Fortymile Team/Northern Field Office
Bruce Ogonowski, supervisory land surveyor, Div. of Cadastral Survey, Campbell Tract Facility (resigned)
Dee Ritchie, field manager, Northern Field Office (retired)
Monte Smith, telephone dispatch, Fire and Aviation, Campbell Tract Facility (resigned)
Diane Wendling, land law examiner, Div. of Conveyances (retired)

Goings

If retirement wasn't an issue, would you prefer working for the government or the private sector? why?



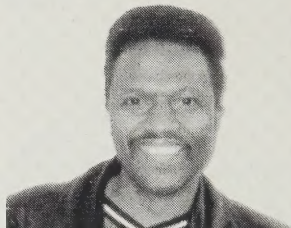
John Douts,
geomatic data analyst,
Div. of Cadastral Survey

Neither; I would like to work for myself. This would require many long days and take time away from my family, though. I can say that I have found personal satisfaction in the various jobs that I have held with BLM and am looking forward to the possibility of an "early retirement..."



Lori FitzSimons,
land law examiner
Div. of Conveyances

I would rather run my own business. It wouldn't give me more freedom, but the job is more satisfying. As a business owner you are more apt to be doing something you really like, not working just to make money for the family or retirement. I was a part owner and major worker in a paperback book exchange store in New Mexico before I came to Alaska nearly 25 years ago. I loved it even though I worked 12 hours a day, 6 days a week.



John Miller,
electronic mechanic
Div. of Support Services

Regardless of retirement, I would prefer working for the government because of the security you have within your job. I've received great training. I get six weeks of annual leave each year. Most of all, you have mobility; you can relocate almost anywhere in the country. I enjoy my job, the people I work with, and the flexible working hours. If I did work in the private sector, it would be in my own business.



Dot Tideman,
navigable waters spec.
Div. of Cadastral Survey

I'd like to go into business for myself. Then I could be more creative—taking ideas and findings, and expanding them. I love to meet new people with varied backgrounds and ideas. None of the government jobs fit exactly what I like to do, so I've picked the job closest. Traveling has always been a priority. If I could, I'd be a pilot soaring high. For now, I'll settle on flying in a 206 Bell helicopter with BLM.

Alaska People

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